

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3424
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010
SUICIDE BY FARMERS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of farmers' suicides taking place in the country is pending before the Supreme Court;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has presented its plea in regard to farmers' suicide before the Court; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): Writ Petition (Civil) No. 359 of 2006 was filed to review the existing agriculture policy and modify the same in the interest of farmers so that there is no recurrence of suicide by farmers.

The Government in its affidavit explained various policy initiatives taken/being taken in this regard including significant stepping up public investment, increasing availability of credit, rehabilitation package to mitigate distress in 31 identified districts, announcement of Minimum Support Prices for major agricultural commodities each season, ensuring availability of agricultural inputs and other measures.

The Writ Petition was accordingly disposed of by the Supreme Court on 21-09-2010.